

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

L-02 PRS-01 USIA-06 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

( ISO ) W

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R 261718Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9673

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMCONSUL BELIZE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 04726

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, UK, GT, BH

SUBJECT: BRITISH TALK WITH BELIZEAN PRIME MINISTER

REF: LONDON 3794

1. ACCORDING TO FCO SOURCE, BELIZEAN PRIME MINISTER PRICE'S VISIT TO LONDON WENT "FAIRLY WELL." PRICE AGREED THAT UK SHOULD CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS WITH GUATEMALANS, AND BRITISH HAVE NOW PROPOSED NEXT MEETING FOR APRIL 20. MEETING WILL PROBABLY NOT BE HELD IN NEW YORK, BUT OUR FOREIGN OFFICE SOURCE WOULD NOT SAY WHAT SITE HAD BEEN PROPOSED. BRITISH NOW AWAITING GUATEMALAN REPLY.

2. PRICE STRESSED BELIZEAN RIGHTS AND VIEWS TO BRITISH MINISTERS AND FIRMLY REJECTED TERRITORIAL ARRANGEMENT SUGGESTED BY GUATEMALANS WITH COMMENT BELIZE WOULD NOT CEDE ONE SQUARE CENTIMETER OF HER TERRITORY.

3. DURING HIS STAY PRICE ALSO MET WITH OFFICIALS AT OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT MINISTRY (ODM) WHO INFORMED HIM THAT TOTAL BRITISH AID TO BELIZE FOR FY75 HAD BEEN UPED FROM 2.1 TO 2.3 MILLION POUNDS. HE EXRESSED  
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GREAT PLEASURE AT THIS SMALL BUT "MEANINGFUL" INCREASE.

MOST OF DISCUSSION CONCERNED FINANCING IMPROVEMENT AND REALIGNMENT OF "NORTHERN ROAD." BRITISH-SPONSORED FEASIBILITY STUDY HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND ODM FEELS GOOD ECONOMIC CASE CAN BE MADE FOR THIS PROJECT. FYI: COST OF PROJECT IS ESTIMATED AT 3 MILLION POUNDS WHICH IS WELL BEYOND ODM'S PRESENT CAPABILITY. AT SAME TIME PRESENT BELIZE CITY PORT DEVELOPMENT AND BANANA GROWING SCHEMES ARE ABSORBING MOST OF SPARE MONEY WHICH MIGHT BE AVAILABLE FOR BELIZE. THUS ODM WILL PROBABLY APPROACH OTHER POTENTIAL DONORS TO JOIN AN AID GROUP TO HANDLE THIS PROJECT. "IT IS STILL EARLY DAYS," HOWEVER, AND WE SHOULD NOT EXPECT A KNOCK ON OUR DOOR JUST YET. END FYI.

4. IN SUM, FOREIGN OFFICE SOURCE SAID BRITISH ARE GUARDEDLY OPTIMISTIC OVER CONTINUING TALKS WITH GUATEMALANS. SITUATION CHARACTERIZED AS MORE PROMISING THAN A FEW MONTHS AGO, BUT SOURCE COMMENTED THAT HMG HAD BEEN IN THIS POSITION BEFORE.

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## Message Attributes

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**Concepts:** DEPENDENCY GOVERNMENT, VISITS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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